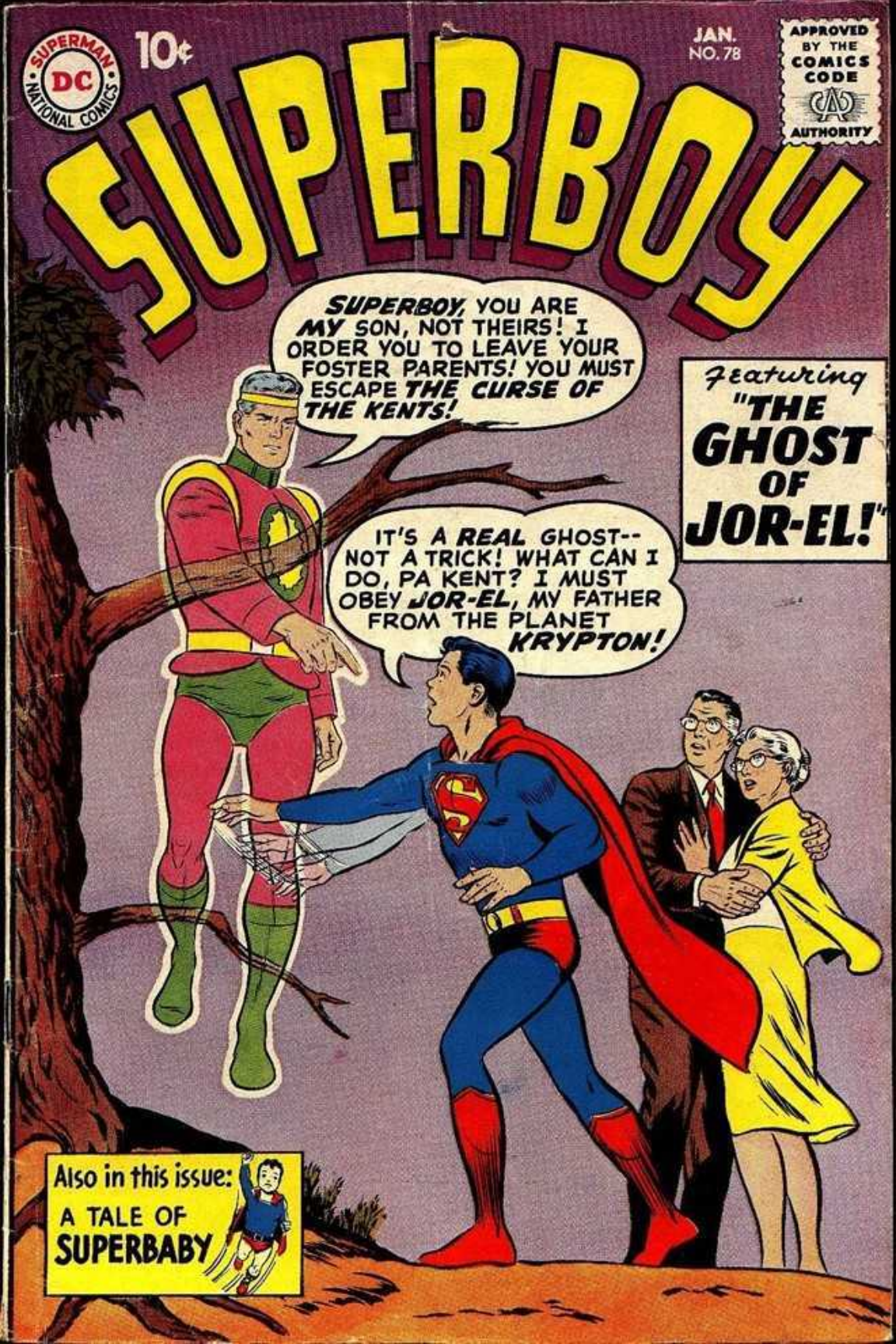
SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS
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NO. 78
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SUPERBOY
SUPERBOY, YOU ARE MY SON, NOT THEIRS! I ORDER YOU TO LEAVE YOUR FOSTER PARENTS! YOU MUST ESCAPE THE CURSE OF THE KENTS!
IT'S A REAL GHOST-- NOT A TRICK! WHAT CAN I DO, PA KENT? I MUST OBEY JOR-EL, MY FATHER FROM THE PLANET KRYPTON!
Featuring "THE GHOST OF JOR-EL!"
Also in this issue: A TALE OF SUPERBABY

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

IN SMALLVILLE ONE DAY, THE PEOPLE BLINK IN DISBELIEF AS THEY SEE A **GIRL** DRESSED IN THE SUPER-UNIFORM OF **SUPERBOY**, PATROLLING IN HIS PLACE! YOU WILL BE EVEN MORE AMAZED TO ENTER THE PRIVACY OF THE KENT HOME TO FIND A **DAUGHTER** LIVING WITH MOM AND DAD! YES, THE MOST FREAKISH TWIST OF FATE IMAGINABLE CHANGES THE **BOY OF STEEL** INTO A **LASS OF STEEL**, WHEN CLARK KENT BECOMES...

"CLAIRE KENT, ALIAS SUPER-SISTER!"

YOU JUST REST, MOM! I'LL HAVE SUPPER COOKED IN A JIFFY!
LAND SAKES, SUPER-SISTER! SINCE YOU'VE BEEN AROUND, YOU'VE DONE ALL MY HOUSEHOLD CHORES FOR ME! IT'S WONDERFUL TO HAVE A SUPER-DAUGHTER FOR A CHANGE, INSTEAD OF A SUPER-SON!

IN SMALLVILLE ONE DAY, AS CLARK KENT CHANGES TO **SUPERBOY**...

LATER, AS **SUPERBOY** PATROLS HIGH ABOVE TOWN...

I'LL CHECK FOR STORM CLOUDS... WAIT! THAT QUEER CRAFT... IS IT A SPACESHIP FROM ANOTHER WORLD? I'LL SEE WHAT THE SPACEMAN PILOT LOOKS LIKE...

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SUPERBOY, No. 78, Jan., 1960. Published monthly, with the exception of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov., by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. Mort Weisinger, Editor. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S. $1.00 including postage. Foreign, $2.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. ©1959 by Superman, Inc. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

SUPERBOY'S X-RAY VISION REVEALS A SURPRISE...
HOW COW! HE...ER... I MEAN SHE'S A SPACE-WOMAN! IT SEEMS THE SIGHT OF ME STARTLED HER!
GREAT ORION! HOW CAN THAT BOY BE FLYING?
OHHH! I'LL CRASH ON THAT MOUNTAIN PEAK!
JUST LIKE A WOMAN TO LOSE CONTROL! BUT IF I STOP THE PLUNGING SHIP, THE JOLT MIGHT INJURE HER! I'LL DIVE AHEAD AND...
...USE MY SUPER-HARD BODY TO SCRAPE OVER THE ROCK, GRINDING IT INTO SAND! THAT'LL FORM A SOFT CUSHION FOR A SAFE LANDING!
PRESENTLY, AS THE SPACEWOMAN STEPS FORTH AND USES TELEPATHY...
I'M SHAR-LA! I CAN READ MINDS AND PICKED UP YOUR INSULTING THOUGHTS BEFORE- "JUST LIKE A WOMAN!" WELL, MY BOY, IT SO HAPPENS THE WORLD I CAME FROM IS RUN BY WOMEN, NOT MEN!
REALLY?
IF YOU WOMEN RUN YOUR WORLD THE WAY YOU RUN SPACESHIPS... WELL, I'M GLAD I DON'T LIVE THERE!
ANOTHER INSULT! I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON, YOU SNIPPY BOY! THE POWERFUL RAYS FROM MY RING'S JEWEL WILL STRIKE YOU AND...
BAH! I'M INVULNERABLE TO ALL PHYSICAL HARM, SHAR-LA, EXCEPT FROM A SUBSTANCE CALLED KRYPTO-NITE! AND THE ANGRY WAY YOU'RE ACTING MAKES ME GLAD I'M NOT A GIRL!
YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SAY THAT... LATER!

SOON...
WHAT DID SHE MEAN BY THAT REMARK? OH, FORGET IT! WAIT... MY REFLECTION DOWN IN THAT POND LOOKS... ER... VERY STRANGE...
OMIGOSH! I'VE BEEN CHANGED INTO A... A GIRL! SHAR-LA'S WEIRD RING RAYS MUST HAVE SOMEHOW DONE THIS! IT'S HER REVENGE! I'LL RUSH BACK AND MAKE HER RETURN ME BACK TO NORMAL!
BUT THE SPACESHIP IS GONE!
SHAR-LA WENT BACK TO HER WORLD! BUT SHE DIDN'T TELL ME IN WHAT PART OF THE UNIVERSE IT IS! HOLY COW! I... I'LL REMAIN A GIRL EVEN THOUGH I STILL HAVE A BOY'S MIND!
AS THE LASS OF STEEL RETURNS HOME THROUGH A SECRET BASEMENT TUNNEL...
JUST IN TIME TO HELP US, SUPERBOY... JEHOSOPHAT!
TH-THAT ISN'T OUR SON!
YES, DAD, IT'S STILL ME... MENTALLY, AT LEAST!
AFTER "SUPERBOY" TELLS HIS STORY...
SO HERE I AM--A GIRL!
WELL, I'M DELIGHTED! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A DAUGHTER AS WELL AS A SON! HMM... YOU CAN'T CHANGE TO CLARK'S CLOTHES SO I'LL GO SHOPPING FOR YOU!
AFTER MA KENT RETURNS...
YOU'LL HAVE TO WEAR DRESSES NOW, CLARK!
I... I GUESS SO! BUT I CAN'T BE CALLED CLARK ANY-MORE! HMM... I HAVE AN EXCUSE TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING...
LATER, AS LANA LANG IS CALLED FROM NEXT DOOR...
CLARK WAS INVITED TO VISIT OUT-OF-TOWN RELATIVES! IN TURN THEIR DAUGHTER WILL STAY WITH US! LANA, MEET CLAIRE KENT!
HI, CLAIRE!

GEE, IT'S SWELL TO HAVE A GIRL NEXT DOOR! COME IN MY HOUSE! WE'LL TRY OUT A RECIPE I HEARD OVER THE RADIO! COOKING IS SUCH FUN!

COOKING? THAT'S...ER... GIRL STUFF!

BUT "CLAIRE" KENT STILL HAS CLARK'S BOY-MIND, AND...

YOU MIX THE BATTER FOR THE CAKE, CLAIRE!

I'D RATHER BE THE **BATTER** IN THAT BALL GAME THE BOYS ARE PLAYING! BUT I...I CAN'T JOIN THEM NOW...SIGH!

NEXT... HMM... WHAT'S BETTER THAN LISTENING TO DREAMY RECORDS, CLAIRE?

A THOUSAND THINGS! I'M BORED STIFF! BUT WAIT... WHAT'S THAT ODD WARNING RINGING IN MY MIND?

SOS! **ARROW GIRL** IN DANGER... AT AMUSEMENT PARK...SOS!

MAKING A HURRIED EXCUSE, CLAIRE LEAVES LANA TO CHANGE IN SECRET...

SOS... SOS... SOS...

I TOLD LANA I HAD AN ERRAND TO DO SO I COULD INVESTIGATE THIS STRANGE MENTAL DISTRESS CALL! IT'S A JOB FOR **SUPERBOY**...ER...**SUPERGIRL**--OH, I'M ALL **MIXED UP!**

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE **LASS OF STEEL** SPEEDS TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK...

WHY, **ARROW GIRL** ISN'T IN ANY TROUBLE! WAS THE WARNING FALSE?

THERE SHE GOES! THE GIANT MECHANICAL ARCHER HAS SHOT **ARROW GIRL** TOWARD TOWARD THE STEEL TARGET!

BUT SUDDENLY...

HELP! THE WIND BLEW ME ASIDE! I...I WON'T GO THROUGH THAT BULL'S-EYE HOLE! ...I'LL HIT SOLID STEEL!

THE **ADVANCE** WARNING I RECEIVED CAME TRUE AFTER ALL! I'LL SAVE HER...

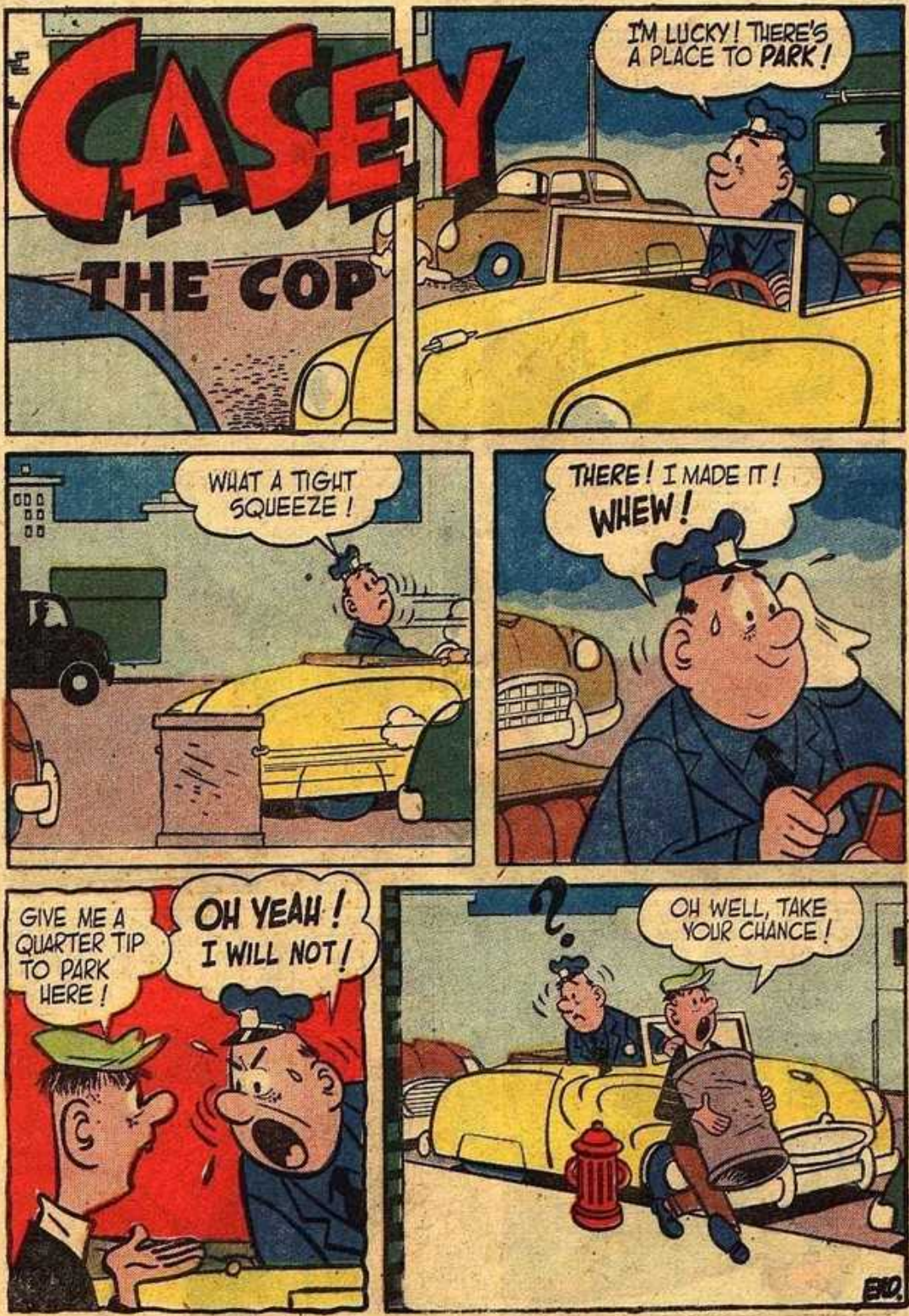
...BY SMASHING A NEW HOLE THROUGH THE STEEL TARGET FOR HER! I'LL REPAIR IT LATER!
CRASH!
LOOK... A STREAK OF BLUE! IT MUST BE SUPERBOY ON THE JOB!
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TARGET...
THE ARROW GIRL REACHED THE NET SAFELY! BUT... BUT HOW WILL I... I EXPLAIN MY EMBARRASSING CHANGE TO PEOPLE?
WAIT... THAT ISN'T SUPERBOY... IT'S A GIRL WITH SUPER-POWERS!
LUCKILY, SOMEONE OFFERS HIS OWN EXPLANATION...
YOU LOOK ENOUGH LIKE SUPERBOY TO BE HIS TWIN SISTER! MAYBE SUPERBOY NEVER REVEALED YOUR EXISTENCE BEFORE, FOR REASONS OF HIS OWN!
HOW DID YOU.. ER... GUESS? CALL ME... UH... SUPER-SISTER!
I'VE CHANGED PLACES WITH MY... ER... BROTHER! HE'S ON THE WORLD WHERE I LIVED... AND I'LL PATROL EARTH IN HIS PLACE!
HMFF! YOU MAY NOT BE AS ABLE AS SUPERBOY, SUPER-SISTER! AFTER ALL, SUPER OR NOT...
...YOU'RE JUST A GIRL!
HMM... I'LL SHOW THEM THAT SUPER-SISTER CAN DO AS WELL AS SUPERBOY! BUT THE MYSTERY OF THAT MENTAL WARNING RECEIVED AHEAD OF TIME IS WHAT BAFFLES ME RIGHT NOW!
AT HOME, MOM KENT HAS THE ANSWER!
IT'S SIMPLE, CLARK... ER... CLAIRE! YOU HAVE FEMININE INTUITION NOW! MEN DON'T HAVE IT! IT'S LIKE A SIXTH SENSE THAT WARNS MANY WOMEN OF DANGERS IN ADVANCE!
THEN THE LAUGH'S ON SHAR-LA!

INSTEAD OF PUNISHING ME, SHE GAVE ME A NEW SUPER-POWER I NEVER HAD BEFORE. SUPER-INTUITION! AND IT'S WORKING AGAIN RIGHT NOW...
SOS! YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS IN DANGER... FROM LANA LANG... SOS!
AS CLAIRE CHECKS WITH HER TELESCOPIC VISION AND SUPER-HEARING...
LOOK, DAD... JUST BEFORE SUPER-SISTER DID THAT JOB, CLAIRE KENT LEFT ME WITH A FLIMSY EXCUSE! HMM... I'LL TRY AND TRAP HER IN SCHOOL TOMORROW!
OH, OH! LANA'S IN ONE OF HER SUSPICIOUS MOODS AGAIN!
SUPER-SISTER SAVES ARROW GIRL!
SOON, IN CLARK'S ROOM, RE-CONVERTED BY MOM KENT TO CLAIRE'S ROOM...
IF LANA SUSPECTS I'M SUPER-SISTER, I'LL BE ON GUARD TOMORROW IN SCHOOL WHERE I'LL ENROLL AS A VISITING STUDENT!
NEXT MORNING, IN CLASS...
LOOK, CLAIRE! LET ME SHOW YOU HOW NEAT MY NEW FINGERNAIL CLIPPERS WORK!
SHE'S TRYING TO TRAP ME! THE CLIPPERS WON'T BE ABLE TO CUT MY FINGERNAILS AND LANA WILL KNOW I'M SUPER-SISTER!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT...
GOODNESS! THERE'S SUPER-SISTER FLYING BY ON PATROL! THEN I... I WAS WRONG! CLAIRE ISN'T HER SECRET IDENTITY!
MY TRICK WORKED!
"I PREPARED TO PROTECT MY SECRET IDENTITY LAST NIGHT, WHEN..."
I'LL SIMPLY CONVERT ONE OF MY SUPERBOY-ROBOTS INTO A SUPER-SISTER ROBOT, AND USE IT TOMORROW TO FOOL LANA!
AS CLAIRE'S SUPER-INTUITION AGAIN WARNS HER ON THE WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL LATER...
SOS! LIFE IN DANGER AT WALLIBU ISLAND! SOS!
IT'S ANOTHER JOB FOR SUPER-SISTER, ON A DISTANT TROPICAL ISLAND!

USING HER TELESCOPIC VISION ON THE WAY...
A MAN'S LIFE IS AT STAKE THIS TIME!
IT IS TRIBAL LAW THAT ANY HUNTER WHO FAILS TO BRING BACK FOOD FOR THE TRIBE MUST LEAP INTO THE VOLCANO!
NO! LET ME DIE IN MY FATHER'S PLACE. PUT THE LEAPING HOOD OVER ME!
OH, NO! I'LL HAVE TO SAVE A GIRL'S LIFE AGAIN! HMM... SHE'S MY SIZE AND AGE! I'LL SUPER-BORE UNDERGROUND AND...
...BURST UP IN TIME TO LET THE MEDICINE MAN PUT THE HOOD OVER ME! I'LL PUSH THE GIRL ASIDE! THIS THICK VOLCANO SMOKE WILL HIDE WHAT I'M DOING!
THEN...
MALOANA LEAPED! SHE WILL DIE WITH MERCIFUL SWIFTNESS IN THAT MOLTEN LAVA!
ARE THEY DUE FOR A SURPRISE!
SHORTLY...
BUT LOOK! MALOANA IS SWIMMING THROUGH THE FLAMES UNHARMED! IT MUST MEAN THE VOLCANO SPIRIT HAS SPARED HER LIFE!
I'LL VANISH IN A MOMENT! THEN...
ABOVE, AS MALOANA IS NOTICED AFTER THE EXCITEMENT IS OVER...
THE VOLCANO SPIRIT WILLS THAT YOU SHALL LIVE! YOUR FATHER, TOO!
I KNEW THIS GIRL WAS IN DANGER BECAUSE OF MY SUPER-INTUITION HA! SHAR-LA DIDN'T "PUNISH" ME BY TURNING ME INTO A GIRL!

BUT ON THE WAY BACK TO SMALLVILLE...
THAT COAST GUARD SHIP IS TOWING A DISABLED FREIGHTER! WHAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS GONE?
AHOY, SUPER-SISTER! THAT FREIGHTER STRUCK AN ICEBERG! THE CREW WAS IN GREAT DANGER... BUT YOU WEREN'T AROUND!
WE BARELY RESCUED THEM IN TIME! YOU COULD HAVE DONE IT QUICKLY AND SAVED A DOZEN MEN'S LIVES!
GOLLY! IT SEEMS MY SUPER-INTUITION ONLY WORKS... UH... FOR GIRLS, NEVER FOR MEN! THAT'S BAD! HMM... IS SHAR-LA'S REVENGE WORKING, AFTER ALL?
WHEN THE NEXT MENTAL WARNING COMES...
S.O.S.! A GIRL SKIN-DIVER IS IN DANGER AT THE UNDER-WATER SHOW! S.O.S.!
SHE'S DOING STUNTS FOR PEOPLE WATCHING FROM A GLASS-BOTTOMED BOAT! THAT SHARK SUDDENLY ATTACKED! LOOKS LIKE I HAVE TO RUSH THERE AND RESCUE ANOTHER GIRL!
MOMENTS LATER...
I'LL SWING THE SHARK BY THE TAIL UNTIL HE'S TOO DIZZY TO SWIM STRAIGHT!
HEAVENS! THAT'S SUPER-SISTER AND SHE CAME JUST IN TIME TO SAVE ME!
LATER, UNNERVED BY HER NARROW ESCAPE, THE GIRL PERFORMER SPEAKS TO HER MANAGER, AND...
I... UH... JUST CAN'T GO ON, MR. STONE! REFUND ALL THE CUSTOMERS' MONEY!
ALL RIGHT, BUT I'LL TEAR UP YOUR CONTRACT! YOU'RE THROUGH!
BUT A SUPER-SUBSTITUTE VOLUNTEERS!
HOLD IT, MR. STONE! I'LL REPLACE YOUR GIRL PERFORMER FOR THIS SHOW AND GIVE YOUR CUSTOMERS THEIR MONEY'S WORTH!
See the SPECTACULAR UNDERWATER SHOW!

SOON, UNDERWATER, A SUPER-SHOW TAKES PLACE...
WOW! THAT SHARK JUST GOT OVER ITS DIZZINESS AND SUPERBOY'S SISTER PUT HER HEAD IN ITS MOUTH!
FOR HER FINAL COLORFUL ACT...
TERRIFIC! SUPER-SISTER GATHERED THOSE RAINBOW-COLORED FISH IN A SEAWEED NET! IT'S LIKE UNDERWATER FIREWORKS AS THEY BURST FREE!
I'M GLAD I HELPED ANOTHER GIRL, EVEN IF IT WILL SEEM LIKE I ALWAYS FAVOR WOMEN IN DANGER OVER MEN!
ABRUPTLY, EVERYTHING CHANGES!
AWAKEN, SUPERBOY! BY WILLINGLY AIDING THAT GIRL, YOU HAVE EARNED MY FORGIVENESS!
WHY, I... UH... I'M SUPER-BOY AGAIN! DID YOUR RING'S RAYS CHANGE ME BACK FROM A GIRL?
NO, YOU NEVER WERE A GIRL, SUPERBOY! THE MOMENT MY RING'S MENTO RAYS STRUCK YOU AT THE START, THEY HYPNOTIZED YOU AND TIME STOOD STILL! THEN I PROJECTED A MENTAL DRAMATIZATION OF YOU BEING SUPER-SISTER!
IT... IT WAS ALL IN MY MIND?
WELL, I LEARNED MY LESSON, SHAR-LA! I KNOW NOW HOW IT FEELS TO BE A GIRL AND MEET UNDESERVED SCORN AND RIDICULE FROM MEN!
GOOD, SUPERBOY! WE ALWAYS TREAT OUR MEN FAIRLY ON OUR WOMAN-RULED WORLD! FAREWELL!
LATER, AT HOME...
WE HAVE A FINE SON, JONATHAN! BUT SOMETIMES I WISH WE HAD A DAUGHTER, TOO!
MOM DID HAVE A DAUGHTER FOR A WHILE... BUT ONLY IN MY MENTAL VISION! AS FOR ME, I'M GLAD I'M STILL CLARK KENT, NOT CLAIRE KENT!
THE END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THE COP
I'M LUCKY! THERE'S A PLACE TO PARK!
WHAT A TIGHT SQUEEZE!
THERE! I MADE IT! WHEW!
GIVE ME A QUARTER TIP TO PARK HERE!
OH YEAH! I WILL NOT!
OH WELL, TAKE YOUR CHANCE!
BIO.

SUPERBOY

AN UNTOLD STORY OF SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

TO PERFORM HIS AMAZING SUPER-FEATS, **SUPERBOY** MUST OFTEN FLY THROUGH FIRE, OR SMOTHER EXPLOSIONS, OR GET SPLASHED BY CORROSIVE CHEMICALS! YET LIKE HIS OWN INVULNERABLE BODY HIS SUPER-SUIT IS INDESTRUCTIBLE! IT CAN NEVER BE DAMAGED OR DESTROYED! HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED JUST **WHERE** THIS REMARKABLE SUPER-COSTUME CAME FROM? WELL, IT ALL GOES BACK TO THE BABYHOOD OF THE **BOY OF STEEL**, AS YOU WILL FIND OUT, IN...

"The ORIGIN of SUPERBOY'S SUPER-COSTUME!"

HEE, HEE! HORNS TICKLE ME!

BEING TOSSED ON THE ANGRY BULL'S HORNS DOESN'T HARM **SUPERBABY!** BUT I'LL HAVE TO SEW HIM A NEW PLAY-SUIT **AGAIN!** OH, JONATHAN... IF ONLY WE COULD MAKE HIM A SUPER-PLAYSUIT THAT COULDN'T GET TORN OR DAMAGED!

SNORT! SNORT!

IN SMALLVILLE ONE DAY, AT THE GRAND OPENING OF A NEW CLOTHING STORE FOR BOYS...

FRIENDS! **SUPERBOY** WILL NEVER NEED MY CLOTHES! HIS INDESTRUCTIBLE COSTUME **NEVER** WEARS OUT! I'VE ARRANGED FOR HIM TO ENTERTAIN YOU BY DEMONSTRATING HIS REMARKABLE **SUPER-SUIT!**

OPENING

TEEN TOG SHOP

SOON, IN A VACANT LOT NEARBY, **SUPERBOY** BEGINS HIS ACT...

MY PLUNGE INTO THIS ACID VAT PROVES THAT EVEN THE STRONGEST **ACID** CAN'T HARM MY SUPER-COSTUME!

ACID

NEXT...
WOW! NOW SUPERBOY IS STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF A BONFIRE! FLAMES CAN'T BURN HIS SUPER-CLOTHING!
FINALLY, WITHIN A CAGE OF LIONS BORROWED FROM THE ZOO...
LOOK! EVEN THE SHARP CLAWS AND TEETH OF POWERFUL ANIMALS CAN'T RIP HIS SUPER-SUIT!
LATER, AS SUPERBOY TAKES THE PROPS AWAY...
THANKS FOR HELPING MY GRAND OPENING, SUPERBOY! BUT THERE'S ONE MYSTERY YOU'VE NEVER EXPLAINED.. JUST WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR AMAZING, INDESTRUCTIBLE COSTUME?
I...ER...CAN'T EXPLAIN, SIR! IT WOULD REVEAL MY SECRET IDENTITY! SORRY!
LATER, SUPERBOY SWITCHES TO HIS ALTER EGO, MILD CLARK KENT, FOSTER SON OF JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT...
I CAN NEVER TELL OTHERS HOW I OWE THE ORIGIN OF MY SUPER-SUIT TO MOM AND DAD KENT! IT ALL BEGAN WHEN MY SPACE ROCKET LANDED ON EARTH YEARS AGO, AFTER MY HOME WORLD OF KRYPTON HAD EXPLODED!
"AS I FIGURED OUT LATER, THE ROCKET COULDN'T SMASH BECAUSE IT HAD TURNED TO SUPER-METAL UNDER EARTH'S GRAVITY CONDITIONS, JUST AS I HAD TURNED TO SUPERBABY!"
WHAMMM!
"BUT THEN, THE SUPER-FUEL MUST HAVE EXPLODED, WRECKING THE ROCKET WITH SUPER-FORCE, AND THE CONCUSSION HURLED ME CLEAR!"
BLAMMMM!
WAH WAHHHH!

"DRIVING BY, MR. AND MRS. KENT FOUND ME!"
LAND SAKES! THIS BABY SURVIVED THE CRASH BY A MIRACLE! HE'S ALONE, POOR CHILD! WE'LL TAKE HIM HOME AND NOTIFY THE POLICE, JONATHAN!
JIMMINY! IS IT A... A SPACE ROCKET? I'LL PICK UP THE WRECKAGE LATER!

"PRESENTLY, AT THE FARM WHERE MOM AND DAD LIVED AT THE TIME..."
I'M BACK, MARTHA! I'LL PUT THE WRECK IN THE SHED! BUT THERE'S NO CLUE TO WHICH WORLD THE BABY CAME FROM! HE'S... UH... AN ORPHAN OF SPACE!

"THIS GAVE MOM KENT AN EXCITING IDEA!"
OH, HE'S SO SWEET! JONATHAN, WE'VE ALWAYS WANTED A CHILD! WHY NOT KEEP HIM INSTEAD OF TURNING HIM OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES? WE'LL GIVE HIM A LOVING HOME!
BUT PEOPLE WILL WONDER WHERE WE GOT HIM! HMM... THERE IS A WAY!

"NEXT MORNING, AT THE SMALLVILLE ORPHANAGE..."
GOODNESS! SOMEBODY LEFT A BABY AT OUR DOORSTEP!
I DID! THEY'LL TAKE HIM IN! THEN MARTHA AND I CAN APPLY FOR HIS ADOPTION AS IF WE NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE!
SMALLVILLE ORPHANAGE

"AND SHORTLY AFTER..."
I'M GLAD THAT POOR CHILD FOUND A HOME SO QUICKLY! HERE ARE YOUR ADOPTION PAPERS, MR. KENT!
NOW HE'S OURS LEGALLY! WE'LL RAISE HIM LIKE WE WOULD OUR OWN SON! NO MATTER WHAT WORLD HE CAME FROM, HE'S LIKE ANY OTHER CUTE BABY ON EARTH!

"BUT MY NEW FOSTER PARENTS SOON FOUND OUT I WAS AMAZINGLY DIFFERENT!"
JONATHAN... LOOK! BABY CLARK UNDER YOUR PLOW! HOW COULD HE... HE LIFT IT LIKE A TOY?
JEHOSOPHAT! NO EARTH BABY EVER HAD MUSCLES LIKE THAT! HE HAS... UH... SUPER-STRENGTH!

"SOON ANOTHER PHENOMENON STARTLED MOM!"

JONATHAN! I ACCIDENTALLY JABBED CLARK BUT HE DIDN'T CRY! AND THE PIN ONLY **BENT!** HE MUST HAVE **SKIN OF STEEL**, TOO, MAKING HIM **INVULNERABLE** TO ALL HARM!

"GRADUALLY, IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS, THEY FOUND OUT MY OTHER SUPER-POWERS!"

Found a hidden toy... X-RAY VISION!
Pointed to lost kite miles away... TELESCOPIC VISION!
Crawled faster than running horse in pasture... SUPER-SPEED!
Chased bird in air... FLYING POWER!

MARTHA! THERE'S NO DOUBT NOW! CLARK IS A... A **SUPERBABY!**

"WHEN I GREW OUT OF INFANCY..."

I MADE CLARK HIS FIRST PLAYSUIT!

MIGHT AS WELL STORE HIS BABY BLANKETS IN THE ATTIC THEN! BUT I'LL PLAY A GAME WITH YOU OUTSIDE, CLARK! IT'S CALLED...ER...PULLING STUMPS!

"OUTSIDE, AS I SAVED DAD THE COST OF DYNAMITE..."

WHEN GAME OVER, DADDY?

WHEN MY LAND'S ALL CLEARED... **YIPES!**

THAT RED KERCHIEF... ANGERED OUR BULL! HE'S CHARGING STRAIGHT AT CLARK! HE'LL BE HURT...

...AND I DON'T MEAN CLARK! I MEAN THAT DUMB BULL! HE ONLY KNOCKED HIMSELF SILLY BUTTING THE **TOT OF STEEL!**

WHUMP!

"BUT ONE THING ABOUT ME WASN'T INVULNERABLE, TO MOM'S DISMAY..."

OH, DEAR! THE BULL'S HORNS RIPPED YOUR PLAYSUIT TO **SHREDS!** I'LL HAVE TO MAKE YOU A NEW ONE! I HOPE IT LASTS LONGER!

"NOT MUCH LONGER!...FOR WHEN WE ALL WENT FISHING ONE DAY..."
BY CRACKY! I'VE GOT A BIG ONE...OH, DRAT! THE LINE BROKE!
ME DIVE AFTER FISH, DADDY!
SNAP!

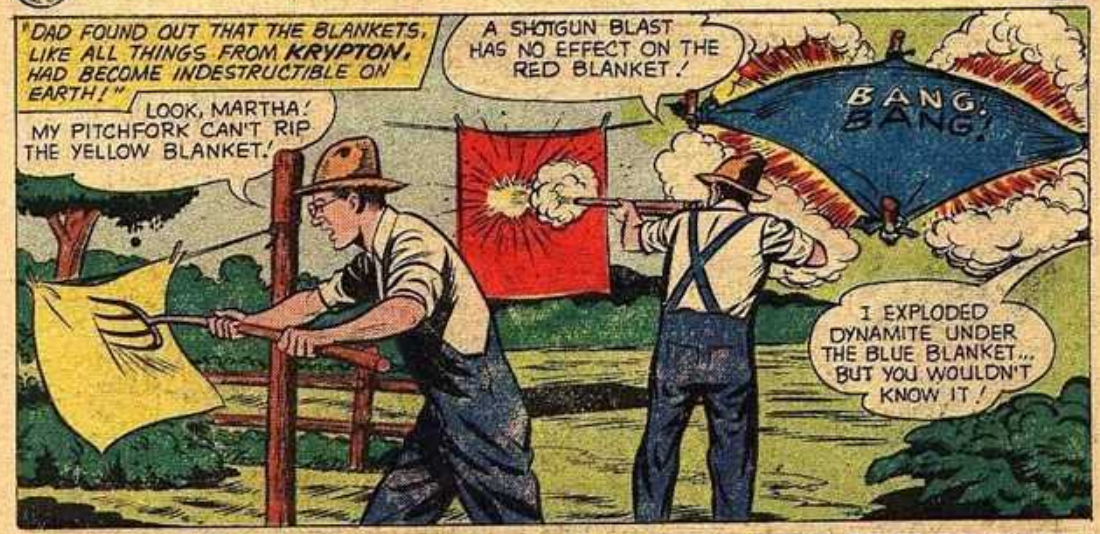
"BELOW, WHERE A SUNKEN LOG LAY..."
ME GOT HIM! OH, OH! MY SUIT GETTING RIPPED! MOMMY BE ANGRY!

LAND SAKES! HOW CAN I KEEP CLOTHES ON THAT BOY? I... I WISH I COULD FIND HIM A PLAYSUIT AS INDESTRUCTIBLE AS HE IS!

"FATE GRANTED MOM'S WISH, STARTING WITH A STORM ONE DAY THAT BLEW OUR LIGHTNING ROD DOWN!"
LIGHTNING MIGHT STRIKE OUR HOUSE NOW! SON, CAN YOU FASTEN THAT LIGHTNING-ROD BACK ON THE ROOF?
ME TRY, DADDY!

"BUT BEFORE I FINISHED, A BOLT STRUCK ME AND WAS DEFLECTED INTO THE ATTIC...
OH, IT STARTED FIRE! WELL, ME PUT OUT FLAMES AFTER ME FIX ROD TIGHT!
KRAKK!

"SHORTLY..."
ME USE SUPER-BREATH TO BLOW OUT FIRE!
GOOD WORK, SON! THE FIRE WAS SPREADING RAPIDLY! IT BURNED A LOT OF THINGS AND... WAIT! WHY ARE YOUR OLD BABY BLANKETS UNHARMED!
WHOOOSH!
5


"DAD FOUND OUT THAT THE BLANKETS, LIKE ALL THINGS FROM KRYPTON, HAD BECOME INDESTRUCTIBLE ON EARTH!"
LOOK, MARTHA! MY PITCHFORK CAN'T RIP THE YELLOW BLANKET!
A SHOTGUN BLAST HAS NO EFFECT ON THE RED BLANKET!
BANG! BANG!
I EXPLODED DYNAMITE UNDER THE BLUE BLANKET... BUT YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT!

"BUT MOM MET A PROBLEM WHEN TRYING TO USE THIS SUPER-CLOTH..."
IT WOULD MAKE A PERFECT SUPER-SUIT FOR OUR SON... BUT HOW CAN I CUT OR SEW IT?
I KNOW WE CAN UN-RAVEL EACH OF THE BLANKETS, DEAR! I WAS ABLE TO UNTIE A KNOT IN THIS ONE!

"MOM THEN KNITTED A GARMENT FOR ME... ONLY TO MEET ANOTHER PROBLEM!"
CLARK'S BLUE SHIRT IS DONE, BUT... ER... HOW CAN WE DISCONNECT IT FROM THE REST OF THE YARN? EVEN YOUR AXE CAN'T CUT THAT THREAD!
HM... ONLY SUPERBABY CAN HELP US!

LOOK, DAD! ME MAKING BIG MUD PIES!
GREAT, SON! BUT MOTHER ALWAYS BAKES PIES! WHY DON'T YOU DO THE SAME USING THE HEAT OF YOUR X-RAY VISION?

THAT BE FUN, DADDY! ME DO IT!
THE HEAT WAVES WILL BURN THROUGH THIS SUPER-THREAD, AND CUT THE YARN!

"THUS, USING MY X-RAY VISION FOR 'SCISSORS', MY PARENTS WERE ABLE TO USE THE KRYPTON YARN AND COMPLETE MY SUPER-PLAYSUIT!"
WATCH, MOMMY! ME SLIDE DOWN ROOF! WHEEE!
THOSE SPLINTERS AND NAILS CAN'T RIP HIS CLOTHES NOW! HE CAN PLAY AS ROUGH AS HE WANTS!
"THEN, ON THE DAY WE MOVED INTO SMALLVILLE, AND DAD BOUGHT HIS GENERAL STORE..."
HMM... CLARK, MOVE THE PIANO TO THAT CORNER THIS TIME!
THAT'S THE THIRD TIME YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND, MARTHA! I'M GLAD I DON'T HAVE TO MOVE IT FOR YOU!
"TIME PASSED UNTIL I GREW OUT OF CHILD-HOOD...ALSO OUT OF MY SUPER-PLAYSUIT!"
I'LL PUT YOUR SUPER-PLAYSUIT AWAY, SON! YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH NOW TO TAKE CARE OF THAT NEW SUIT WE BOUGHT YOU FOR SCHOOL!
"YEARS LATER, WHEN DAD AND MOM, LIKE ALL PARENTS, DISCUSSED MY FUTURE LIFE..."
SON, THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU TO BEGIN YOUR OFFICIAL CAREER! YOU MUST AID THE FORCES OF LAW AND TRUTH ALL THROUGH THE WORLD!
THAT SOUNDS EXCITING, DAD! BUT I'LL NEED A COSTUME...A SORT OF UNIFORM... AND IT WILL HAVE TO RESIST ALL DAMAGE! HMM.., THAT REMINDS ME...
CAREERS FOR BOYS
AIRPLANE PILOT
TRAIN ENGINEER
JUNGLE
"I BROUGHT OUT MY CHILDHOOD SUPER-PLAYSUIT!"
IT'S TOO SMALL FOR ME, NOW, BUT I'LL UNRAVEL IT AND ADD IT TO THE LEFT-OVER SUPER-YARN! THEN I'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO MAKE ME A BIGGER COSTUME!
"AFTER MOM KNITTED MY NEW GARMENTS..."
NOT BAD! BUT I NEED A BELT AND BOOTS! THEY CAN'T BE MADE OF YARN...
MAYBE WE CAN FIND SUITABLE MATERIALS IN YOUR WRECKED SPACE ROCKET THAT I STORED IN OUR BASEMENT!
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"SHORTLY..." THIS HELPS! THE ROCKET WAS LINED WITH STRIPS OF RUBBER PADDING! I CAN WRAP THEM AROUND MY LEGS AND PRESSURE THEM INTO SUPER-BOOTS!
LOOK... I FOUND A STRAP! IT CAN BE YOUR SUPER-BELT!
"LATER, I PRACTICED THE SWITCH OF CLOTHING THAT I WOULD PERFORM MANY TIMES IN MY FUTURE CAREER."
MY EVERYDAY IDENTITY WILL BE THAT OF CLARK KENT! WHEN A JOB FOR SUPERBOY ARISES, I'LL CHANGE AND... HMM! BUT HOW CAN I HIDE MY CLARK KENT CLOTHING SO NOBODY STUMBLES ON IT?
"INSPIRATION CAME TO ME."
THERE'S RED SUPER-YARN LEFT OVER! FOLLOW MY PATTERN, MOM, AND MAKE ONE MORE IMPORTANT GARMENT FOR ME...
...A CAPE! AND I CAN HIDE MY CLARK KENT CLOTHING IN THIS SECRET POUCH!
CLEVER, SON! BUT YOU NEED ONE MORE THING... AN EMBLEM THAT PEOPLE WILL LEARN TO KNOW AND HONOR THROUGH ALL THE WORLD!
"AGREEING, MOM USED THE REMAINING YARN AND FINALLY..."
I CHOSE THIS SYMBOL NOT ONLY TO STAND FOR SUPERBOY, AND LATER SUPERMAN - IT WILL ALSO MEAN SAVING LIVES, STOPPING CRIME, AND GIVING SUPER-AID WHEREVER IT'S NEEDED!
AS CLARK'S RECOLLECTIONS END...
I FOUND OUT LATER THAT ONLY KRYPTONITE RADIATIONS WERE ABLE TO PENETRATE MY SUPER-SUIT! MY COSTUME HAS SERVED ME FAITHFULLY... THANKS TO MOM AND DAD, WHO SAVED MY SUPER-BLANKET! AS I GROW OLDER, MY SUPER-COSTUME WILL S-T-R-E-T-C-H!
THE END

VARSITY VIC
I'M ON A DIET NOW, VIC!
WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN ME WHILE I HAVE A SODA?
HEH-HEH! SHE'S ON A DIET. SHE WON'T ORDER ANYTHING!
I'LL HAVE A DOUBLE BANANA SPLIT, WITH EXTRA WHIPPED CREAM!
SAY—I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON A DIET!
I AM, VIC--I'M ON A DIET TO GAIN WEIGHT!
END

COMING SUPER-ATTRACTIONS...

ACTION COMICS JANUARY ON SALE NOV. 25th
Lois Lane's dreams are smashed when...
"SUPERMAN MEETS MIGHTY MAID!"
Extra! "SUPERGIRL BECOMES A SUPERBABY!"

ADVENTURE COMICS JANUARY ON SALE NOV. 25th
Clark Kent is exposed to RED KRYPTONITE. As a result, he forgets he is SUPERBOY! Forgets Krypto... Forgets his family!
Read "The WEEK CLARK KENT LOST HIS MEMORY!"
Special: "When AQUAMAN Was AQUA-BOY!"

JIMMY OLSEN JANUARY ON SALE NOV. 19th
Fantastic! "JIMMY BECOMES A GENIE!"
Fabulous! "The BIG SUPERMAN MOVIE!"
Funny! "PERRY WHITE, CUB REPORTER!"

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS ABOUT **MR. MXYZPTLK, SUPERMAN'S** ZANY NEMESIS FROM THE 5TH DIMENSION, WHO DELIGHTS IN MAKING THE **MAN OF STEEL'S** LIFE MISERABLE, WITH ONE MAD-CAP PRANK AFTER ANOTHER! BUT HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED **WHY** THERE IS A FEUD BETWEEN THESE TWO, AND HOW IT ALL BEGAN? FOR THE ANSWER, WE MUST GO BACK IN TIME TO THE DAYS WHEN **SUPERMAN** WAS A TEEN-AGE **SUPERBOY**, AND **MR. MXYZPTLK** WAS A TEEN-AGE IMP! WE PRESENT ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL **SUPERBOY** STORIES OF THEM ALL...

"The GHOST of JOR-EL!"

HEE-HEE! I'VE GOT HIM THIS TIME! I'VE HIT **SUPERBOY** RIGHT WHERE IT REALLY HURTS... IN HIS VULNERABLE HEART!

GREAT SCOTT! IT'S THE GHOST OF MY FATHER **JOR-EL**, WHO DIED ON THE PLANET KRYPTON! HE'S... TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING!

THIS STORY BEGINS MANY YEARS AGO, IN THE 5TH DIMENSIONAL WORLD WHICH EXISTS NEXT TO OURS...

FUZASTL DEAR, I'M WORRIED ABOUT OUR SON! TODAY I CAUGHT HIM NEAR THE SPACE-WARP! I'VE TOLD HIM HUNDREDS OF TIMES TO KEEP AWAY FROM IT!

YOU'RE RIGHT, **TLNDSA!** OUR BOY, **MXYZPTLK**, IS TOO MISCHIEVIOUS!

OH, NO! LOOK WHAT HE'S DONE TO HIS POOR PET! HE'S USED HIS MAGIC TO GIVE IT ANOTHER HEAD!

THAT'S THE FINAL STRAW! UPSTAIRS, YOUNG MAN! YOU'LL DO WITHOUT SUPPER TONIGHT! AND DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU MATERIALIZING ANY FOOD!

SOON...UP IN YOUNG MASTER MXYZPTLK'S ROOM...
I WAS ONLY HAVING SOME FUN! THEY DON'T LOVE ME ANYMORE! I...I'LL RUN AWAY!
HMM...NO MATTER WHERE I GO THEY'D FIND ME, WITH THEIR MAGICAL POWERS! WAIT! I'LL FLY THROUGH THE SPACE-WARP TO EARTH! THEY WON'T FOLLOW ME BECAUSE IT'S AGAINST THE LAW TO CROSS THE SPACE-BARRIER!
HERE GOES! I MUST REMEMBER NOT TO SAY MY NAME BACKWARDS OR THE VIBRATIONS OF MY OWN VOICE WILL RETURN ME TO THE 5TH DIMENSION FOR AT LEAST 90 DAYS!
WHEN MASTER MXYZPTLK MATERIALIZES IN OUR THREE-DIMENSIONAL WORLD, HE SIGHTS...
A FLYING BOY! WHAT'S HE UP TO?
THANKS FOR GETTING US THIS WHALE, SUPERBOY! IT'S A WONDERFUL ADDITION TO OUR AQUARIUM, SUPERBOY! YOU'RE SMALLVILLE'S MOST HELPFUL CITIZEN!
ALWAYS GLAD TO USE MY SUPER-POWERS FOR A WORTHY PURPOSE!
SMALLVILLE AQUARIUM
HMM...SO THEY THINK VERY HIGHLY OF SUPERBOY IN THESE PARTS, EH? IT WOULD BE FUN TO GET HIS HOME-TOWN FURIOUS AT HIM! I'LL DO IT! I'LL HAVE ME A BALL!
AQU
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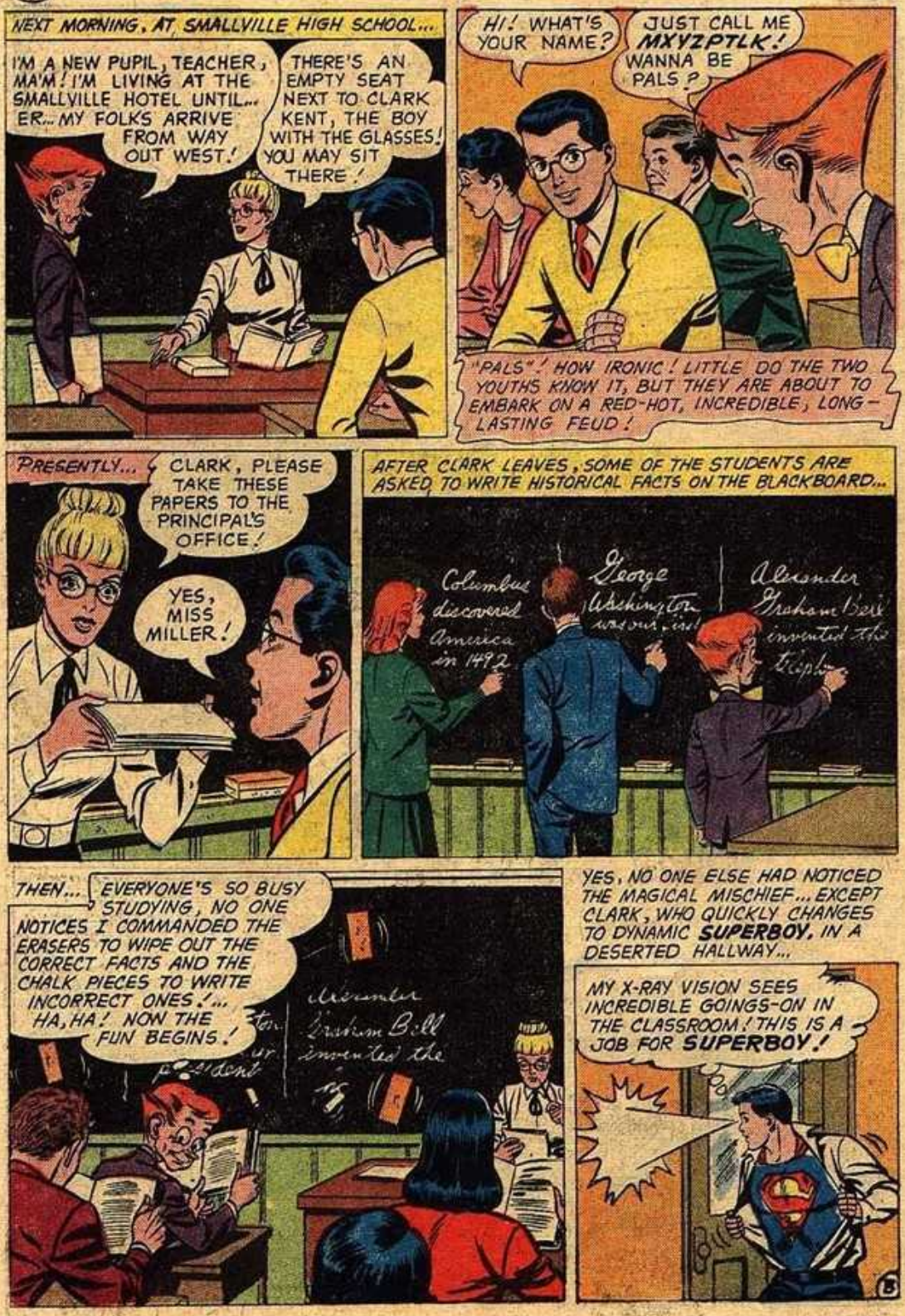
NEXT MORNING, AT SMALLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL...
I'M A NEW PUPIL, TEACHER, MA'M! I'M LIVING AT THE SMALLVILLE HOTEL UNTIL... ER... MY FOLKS ARRIVE FROM WAY OUT WEST!
THERE'S AN EMPTY SEAT NEXT TO CLARK KENT, THE BOY WITH THE GLASSES! YOU MAY SIT THERE!
HI! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
JUST CALL ME MXYZPTLK! WANNA BE PALS?
"PALS"! HOW IRONIC! LITTLE DO THE TWO YOUTHS KNOW IT, BUT THEY ARE ABOUT TO EMBARK ON A RED-HOT, INCREDIBLE, LONG-LASTING FEUD!
PRESENTLY...
CLARK, PLEASE TAKE THESE PAPERS TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE!
YES, MISS MILLER!
AFTER CLARK LEAVES, SOME OF THE STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO WRITE HISTORICAL FACTS ON THE BLACKBOARD...
Columbus discovered America in 1492
George Washington was our first
Alexander Graham Bell invented the
THEN...
EVERYONE'S SO BUSY STUDYING, NO ONE NOTICES I COMMANDED THE ERASERS TO WIPE OUT THE CORRECT FACTS AND THE CHALK PIECES TO WRITE INCORRECT ONES!... HA, HA! NOW THE FUN BEGINS!
Alexander Graham Bell invented the
YES, NO ONE ELSE HAD NOTICED THE MAGICAL MISCHIEF... EXCEPT CLARK, WHO QUICKLY CHANGES TO DYNAMIC SUPERBOY, IN A DESERTED HALLWAY...
MY X-RAY VISION SEES INCREDIBLE GOINGS-ON IN THE CLASSROOM! THIS IS A JOB FOR SUPERBOY!
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WHAT IN THE WORLD..?
Columbus discovered a hole in his shoe in 1492
Yankee Doodle was our first president
Alexander Graham Bell invented the hot dog

HOW STUPID YOU ALL ARE! AND YOU, LANA LANG — YOU'RE AN HONOR STUDENT!
BUT WE DIDN'T WRITE THOSE INCORRECT ANSWERS!

WHILE I STOOD AT THE BLACKBOARD THERE WAS A SUDDEN BREEZE AND SOMETHING THAT FELT LIKE A CLOAK BRUSHED AGAINST ME... DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT MAYBE SUPERBOY...?
DID SOMEONE MENTION MY NAME?
WHY, THAT NEW STUDENT IS A TERRIFIC FIBBER!

SPEEDING INTO THE SCHOOLYARD, THE BOY OF STEEL FASHIONS A LARGE DISC OF SAND, THEN...
THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION IS FUSING THE SILICON SAND PARTICLES INTO A HUGE MAGNIFYING GLASS! I'LL QUICKLY COOL IT WITH MY SUPER-BREATH!

PUFFING THE CHALK OFF THE BLACKBOARD, SUPERBOY REVEALS...
SEE, THERE ARE FAINT IMPRESSIONS OF THE ORIGINAL CORRECT ANSWERS, UNDERNEATH! I ASSURE YOU, I DIDN'T CHANGE THOSE ANSWERS! I'M NOT THAT LOW!
YOU HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL SUPERBOY!
GRR! NOW HE'S A BIGGER HERO THAN EVER! BUT I'LL FIX HIM YET!
Discovered America in 1492

CURIOUS ABOUT THE NEW BOY WHO HAD LIED, CLARK GOES STROLLING WITH HIM...
LET'S GO, CLARK! THE LIGHT'S GREEN!
GREEN? IT'S RED!
HE MUST BE COLOR-BLIND!
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NEXT DAY, AS SUPERBOY FLIES ON PATROL...
THE WAY THOSE CORRECT ANSWERS ON THE BLACKBOARD CHANGED, APPARENTLY BY THEMSELVES, HAS ME BAFFLED! MIGHTY STRANGE!
BUT THEN, SOMETHING EVEN STRANGER HAPPENS...
HOLY COW! A GIANT EGG HAS MATERIALIZED OUT OF... NOTHINGNESS!
SPLOSH!
AWLP!
BELOW, A GROUP OF PICNICKING YOUNGSTERS OBSERVES SUPERBOY'S PLIGHT...
HA, HA! FUNNIEST THING I EVER SAW!
HO, HO!
MEANWHILE, SEATED ON A NEARBY TREE-LIMB, SCREENED FROM VIEW, MXYZPTLK ENJOYS THE MISCHIEF HE HAS CAUSED...
SUPERBOY WILL NEVER LIVE THIS DOWN! WHEN THOSE PICNICKING KIDS TELL THEIR FRIENDS, SUPERBOY WILL BECOME THE LAUGHING-STOCK OF SMALLVILLE!
PLUMMETING DOWNWARD ALONGSIDE THE GOOEY MESS, THE EGG-BESPATTERED BOY OF STEEL EXAMINES IT WITH HIS MICROSCOPIC VISION...
THE EGG'S CHEMICALLY SAFE TO EAT! HMM... I'VE GOT AN IDEA HOW I CAN TURN THIS EMBARRASSING MOMENT TO GOOD ADVANTAGE!

FIRST... I SUPER-PUFF IT INTO THE DESIRED SHAPE... THEN... I FRY IT WITH MY X-RAY VISION!

SOON...
A GIANT OMELET FOR OUR PICNIC! GEE THANKS SUPERBOY!
IT'S DELICIOUS!

HE OUTSMARTED ME AGAIN! BUT, NEXT TIME...! SAY... WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?

THE IMP FROM THE 5TH DIMENSION CATCHES THREE BURLY BURGLARS AS THEY ARE LOOTING A RICH HOME...
AH-HA! BREAKING THE LAW, EH?
I'M GETTING A TERRIFIC IDEA! FIRST I'LL HAVE TO MATERIALIZE A BADGE!

I'M... ER... A MIDGET DETECTIVE! WOULD YOU RATHER GO TO JAIL OR DO ME A FAVOR?
IT AIN'T THAT WE HATE JAIL... IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE SO PERSUASIVE! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN MIND, CHUM?

THE NEXT DAY, MASTER MXYZPTLK GOES TO SCHOOL WEARING A SUPERBOY COSTUME RENTED FROM A COSTUME STORE...
CLASS, OUR TALENTED NEW PUPIL IS GOING TO PRESENT A LITTLE DRAMA IN WHICH THREE OF HIS FRIENDS WILL PLAY THE PARTS OF MYTHOLOGICAL HEROES!
...NAMELY, SAMSON, HERCULES AND ATLAS! AND I WILL ACT OUT THE WAY SUPERBOY WOULD REALLY ACT IF HE MET THESE MUSCULAR MARVELS OF THE PAST!

I SENSE TROUBLE BREWING! I'D BETTER LEAVE, SO I'LL BE FREE TO GO INTO ACTION!
YES, CLARK! IT'S A SHAME YOU WILL MISS OUR LITTLE DRAMA!
I--DON'T FEEL WELL! MAY I GO SEE THE NURSE?
AFTER CLARK LEAVES...
ALL RIGHT, YOU WEAKLINGS! GIVE IT TO ME!
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE! THREATEN US WITH PRISON, WILL YA?
GANGWAY! I'M NOT ONLY SUPER-STRONG, BUT SUPER-SCARED!
HA, HA! HE'S MAKING SUPERBOY LOOK LIKE A SILLY COWARD!
AS MASTER MXYZPTLK BOLTS FROM THE CLASSROOM...
HEY! THAT CAN'T BE ME GOING IN BECAUSE I'M RUNNING OUT!
OH, YA WANT MORE, HAH? TAKE THAT!
THE ANVIL... IT... BROKE! AND... HE'S JUST GRINNING! SOMETHING'S WRONG!
LOOK! A MASK IS FALLING OFF!
SOCK!
CLANG!
SWIFTLY, SUPERBOY TWISTS THE STEEL ANVIL INTO MANACLES!
I RECOGNIZE YOU AS THREE WANTED CRIMINALS! YOU'RE HEADING FOR A CELL!
I GOOFED AGAIN!

INFURIATED, YOUNG **MXYZPTLK** VISITS THE **SUPERBOY** MUSEUM IN SMALLVILLE HOPING TO LEARN SOMETHING HE CAN USE AGAINST THE **BOY OF STEEL** AND SOON, AS HE STANDS BEFORE THE WAX FIGURE OF JOR-EL...

AH-HA! SO **SUPERBOY** CAME FROM THE PLANET **KRYPTON** AND HIS PARENTS WERE **JOR-EL** AND **LARA!** HMM... I'LL BET **SUPERBOY** LIVES HERE IN SMALLVILLE UNDER A SECRET IDENTITY WITH FOSTER-PARENTS!

JOR-EL and LARA SUPERBOY'S REAL PARENTS ON THE PLANET KRYPTON

SOON AFTER... I KNOW A WONDERFUL WAY TO RUIN **SUPERBOY'S** CAREER ON EARTH! BUT FIRST, I'LL HAVE TO MATERIALIZE A GHOST-LIKE DUPLICATE OF **JOR-EL!** NOW WHAT DID **JOR-EL** LOOK LIKE? OH, I REMEMBER. I CAN DO IT FROM MEMORY!

PRESENTLY... THE **SILLY SPRITE** USES HIS 5TH DIMENSIONAL MAGIC TO CONJURE UP A PHANTOM LIKENESS OF **JOR-EL**...

FIND **SUPERBOY** AND HIS FOSTER-PARENTS! WRECK HIS CAREER ON EARTH!

WHATEVER YOU COMMAND, OH MASTER!

THUS IT IS THAT LATER, WHILE ON PATROL, **SUPERBOY** ENCOUNTERS AN AMAZING SPECTRE...

I AM THE GHOST OF **JOR-EL!** COME TO SQUIRE HILL, WITH YOUR FOSTER-PARENTS, AT ONCE!

IT'S MY REAL FATHER!

HA, HA! THE ILLUSION OF **SUPERBOY'S** REAL FATHER THAT I CREATED FROM MEMORY, IS SCARING THE SUPER-WITS OUT OF **SUPERBOY**, JUST AS I FIGURED! AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!

LATER... **SUPERBOY,** MY SON, I CAN SEE INTO THE FUTURE! I PROPHESY THAT UNLESS YOU LEAVE YOUR FOSTER-PARENTS AND QUIT EARTH, THIS WORLD WILL BE DESTROYED. THE KENTS BEAR A STRANGE CURSE!

IT'S A REAL GHOST! I'M SORRY, PA KENT, BUT I MUST OBEY MY FATHER FROM THE PLANET KRYPTON!

PRESENTLY, MASTER MXYZPTLK'S JOY IS UNBOUNDED...
NEWS FLASH! SUPERBOY ANNOUNCED HE WOULD LEAVE EARTH FOREVER! ASTRONOMERS REPORT SEEING HIM FLYING TOWARD ANOTHER GALAXY! THE ENTIRE WORLD MOURNS HIS DEPARTURE...
EXCEPT ME! HEE-HEE! I KNEW I WOULD SUCCEED IN MAKING A FOOL OF SUPERBOY!
BUT MOMENTS LATER...
AWK! SUPERBOY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK ON EARTH? THE RADIO SAID...
THE RADIO WAS WRONG! I WASN'T FOOLED BY YOUR "GHOST" STOOGE! I ONLY PRETENDED TO LEAVE EARTH, SO AS TO MAKE YOU THE BUTT OF YOUR OWN JOKE! YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CRAZY HAPPENINGS THAT HAVE PLAGUED ME!
THE RED AND GREEN COLORS MY FATHER'S "GHOST" WORE WERE REVERSED! WHOEVER CREATED THE FAKE GHOST, WAS COLOR-BLIND! AND I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE!
ULP! CROSSING THE SPACE-WARP MUST HAVE GIVEN ME TEMPORARY COLOR-BLINDNESS IN THIS WORLD, DRAT! I GOOFED BECAUSE I CREATED JOR-EL'S GHOST FROM MEMORY!
THE OTHER DAY I SAW HIM MISTAKE A RED TRAFFIC-LIGHT FOR A GREEN ONE!
ER... YOU'RE LYING!
PROVE IT! ONE OF THESE BRICKS IS RED, THE OTHER IS GREEN! READ THE WORD WRITTEN ON THE RED BRICK!
WHY NOT? I'VE GOT A 50-50 CHANCE OF BEING CORRECT
THIS BRICK! THE WORD IS KLTPZYXM!
GA-AAA! YOU'VE TRICKED ME INTO SAYING MY OWN NAME BACKWARDS... SENDING ME BACK TO MY OWN WORLD!
...I SEE! YOU WERE BEING HOAXED BY A 5TH DIMENSIONAL SPRITE! BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW HOW TO GET RID OF HIM?
A CAPSULE MATERIALIZED OUT OF THE EMPTY AIR, WITH THIS MESSAGE INSIDE! "ATTENTION SUPERBOY! DIMENSIONAL-BINOCULARS HAVE ENABLED ME TO SEE MY PEST OF A SON ANNOYING YOU! YOU CAN SEND MXYZPTLK BACK TO THE 5TH DIMENSION BY TRICKING HIM INTO SAYING HIS NAME BACKWARDS!"
AND IN THE 5TH DIMENSIONAL WORLD...
SO YOU SNEAKED THROUGH THE SPACE-WARP, AGAINST ORDERS! I TOLD SUPERBOY HOW TO SEND YOU BACK HERE! I'M GOING TO PUNISH YOU!
OOO-OOH! THAT SUPER-CRUMB! FROM NOW ON, IT'S WAR!
NOW YOU KNOW WHY MXYZPTLK TRIES TO MAKE SUPERMAN'S LIFE SUPER-MISERABLE! MORE MADCAP MXYZPTLK ADVENTURES ARE COMING! DON'T MISS THEM!
The End